

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-05 LAB-01

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 NIC-01 /037 W

----- 030899

R 291655Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2941

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PE

SUBJECT: CGTP CHALLENGED FROM THE LEFT

REF: LIMA 9226

1. SO-CALLED ULTRA LEFT UNIONS; AMONG THEM THE TEACHERS (SUTEP), MINERS, INCLUDING THE CENTROMIN FEDERATION, AND DISGRUNTLED CGTP ELEMENTS HELD THE FIRST NATIONAL "CLASSIST" LABOR ASSEMBLY NOV. 9 AND 10. ASSEMBLY'S DECLARED PRUPOSE WAS REORGANIZATION OF THE A CGTP, WHICH ACCORDING TO PROMOTERS OF THE ASSEMBLY HAS LOST ITS WORKING CLASS ORIENTATION. ASSEMBLY WAS ANTI-GOVERNMENT IN TONE. DEMANDS INCLUDED THE RELEASE OF WORKERS, PEASANTS AND TEACHERS IMPRISONED FOR LABOR ACTIVITIES, GOP RECOGNITION OF SUTEP, AND PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY A GENERAL WAGE INCREASE OF 100 PERCENT. THE ASSEMBLY CALLED ON PEASANTS TO REJECT GOP-ORGANIZED PEASANT CONFERATION CNA AND TO SUPPORT SUTEP IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST MILITARY GOVERNMENT EDUCATION REFORM. ASSEMBLY PROMOTERS DECLARED THEIR EFFORT A SUCCESS AND CLAIMED TO REPRESENT 750,000 WORKERS OR "50 PERCENT OF ALL NATIONALLY-ORGANIZED WORKERS ACCORDING TO 1970 STATISTICS".

2. HOWEVER EXAGGERATED THIER CLAIMS, THE "ULTRAS" ELICITED A CGTP REACTION. THE CGTP NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDEMNED THE ASSEMBLY AS AN ANTI-CGTP PLOT "ORCHESTRATED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

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BY APRA" AND WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF TROTSKYITES, MAOISTS,

AND OTHERS. ULTRA-LEFTISTS WERE RIDICULED AS POWERLESS
A NARCHISTS PLAYING AN IMPERIALIST GAME WHILE THE CGTP WITH ITS
CLAIMED 480,000 MEMBERS WAS THE "REPRESENTATIVE OF A UNITED
DISCIPLINED WORKING CLASS".

3. COMMENT: PRESS ACCOUNTS OF ULTRA-LEFT LABOR
ASSEMBLY INDICATES USUAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN TROTSKYITES
AND MAOISTS REPLETE WITH WALK-OUTS AND RUMP SESSIONS. ASSEMBLY
ANS SUBSEQUENT WAR OF WORDS IS EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, OF A STRENGTH-
ENING IN FAR LEFT GROUPS AT CGTP EXPENSE. AS INFLATION CONTINUES
TO ERODE WORKERS' INCOME, CGTP DIFFICULTIES WILL INCREASE IN
OFFERING SUPPORT FOR THE REVOLUTION WHILE AT THE SAME TIME RESPONDING
TO WORKERS' DEMANDS. WORKERS' SYMPATHIES ARE LIKELY
TO FLOW TOWARD THOSE UNIONS LIKE THE SUTEP WHICH DEMAND 100
PERCENT ACROSS THE BOARD WAGE INCREASES AND WHICH DIRECTLY
CHALLENGE UNPOPULAR GOP PROGRAMS. SUCH A TREND MAY INCREASE
PROBABILITY OF LABOR UNREST.

4. IT IS QUESTIONABLE, HOWEVER, WHETHER ENOUGH
MOMENTUM CAN BE GENERATED TO CREATE A NEW INDEPENDENT
ANTI-GOVERNMENT, ULTRA-LEFT LABOR CENTRAL. THE
GOP WILL BE WORKING TO FRUSTRATE ANY SUCH ATTEMPT AND THE
CGTP HAS FINANCES AS WELL AS SOME CAPABILITY TO LAUNCH ORGANIZATIONAL
COUNTER OFFENSIVE. APRA, ALTHOUGH ACCUSED OF MASTER-
MINDING THIER ACTIVITIES, HAS NO INTEREST IN UNITY OF THE
ULTRA-LEFT. FINALLY, THE QUALITY OF LEADERSHIP AND ANARCHICAL
TENDENCIES AMONG FAR LEFT LEADERS WILL LIKELY UNDERMINE UNITY
EFFORTS. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT IN HIS NOV. 28 DEPARTURE
STATEMENT OUT-GOING LABMIN SALA OROSCO DECLARED THAT THE CTP IS
THE ONLY UNION WITH QUALIFIED LEADERSHIP. WHETHER THAT LEADER-
SHIP CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CGTP POLEMICS WITH THE LEFT IS AN
OPEN QUESTION.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, COMMUNISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LIMA10107
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740347-0570
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974113/aaaaacma.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LIMA 9226
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 SEP 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <12 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CGTP CHALLENGED FROM THE LEFT
TAGS: ELAB, PE, CGTP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005